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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2166

PATENT
5681-11700/P7517

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/087,234

Filed: March 1, 2002

Inventors:

Ajay Kumar

Hanumanthu Rao Susarla

Prakash Khemani

Title: LOCK MECHANISM FOR
A DISTRIBUTED DATA
SYSTEM

Examiner: Hwang, Joon H.

Group/Art Unit: 2166

Atty. Dkt. No: 5681-11700

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Printed Name

[Signature]

Signature

June 16, 2006

Date

RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION OF APRIL 21, 2006

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Final Action of April 21, 2006, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.